In the Claims

1 (currently amended). A method [of modulating] for inhibiting the function of a transcription [factors by] factor, said method comprising administering an effective amount of [an] a double-stranded oligonucleotide [containing optimal nucleotide binding sites for the transcription factor], said oligonucleotide having a nucleotide sequence comprising the sequence TTCNNNGAA, wherein N represents any nucleotide, and wherein said transcription factor binds to said oligonucleotide.

Claims 2-7 (canceled)

8 (currently amended). A [pharmaceutical] composition for inhibiting a transcription factor in a cell comprising [an effective amount of] a [double stranded] double-stranded oligonucleotide, said oligonucleotide having [a sequence bound by a transcription factor] a nucleotide sequence comprising the sequence TTCNNNGAA, wherein N represents any nucleotide, and wherein said transcription factor binds to said oligonucleotide.

9 (currently amended). The [pharmaceutical] composition according to claim [9] 8, wherein [in which] said transcription factor is activated.

10 (currently amended). The [pharmaceutical] composition according to claim 9, wherein said transcription factor is constitutively activated.

11 (currently amended). The [pharmaceutical] composition according to claim [9] 8, wherein the cell is a malignant cell.

12 (currently amended). The [pharmaceutical] composition according to claim [9] 8, wherein the cell is a leukemia cell.

13 (currently amended). The [pharmaceutical] composition according to claim 8, wherein said transcription factor is STAT5 [and said oligonucleotide contains the sequence TTCNNNGAA, in which "N" is any nucleotide].

Claim 14 (canceled)

15 (currently amended). The [pharmaceutical] composition according to claim 13, wherein said oligonucleotide [is selected from the group comprising an oligonucleotides having] comprises the sequence AGATTTCTAGGAATTCAAATC (SEQ ID NO:1)[, GCCTGATTTCCCCGAAATGACGGCA (SEQ ID NO:2) and GTATTTCCCAGAAAAGGAAC (SEQ ID NO:3)].

16 (currently amended). A method of inhibiting [malignant] proliferation of a tumor cell by administering an effective amount of a [double stranded] double-stranded oligonucleotide, [the] said oligonucleotide having [a sequence bound by a transcription factor,] a nucleotide sequence comprising the sequence TTCNNNGAA, wherein N represents any nucleotide, and wherein a transcription factor in said tumor cell binds to said oligonucleotide, the transcription factor activity being correlated to [malignant] proliferation of said tumor cell.

Claims 17-18 (canceled)

19 (currently amended). A method of removing [malignant] a tumor cell in vitro by exposing a cell culture to an effective amount of a double-stranded oligonucleotide [containing optimal nucleotide binding sites for a transcription factor], said oligonucleotide having a nucleotide sequence comprising the sequence TTCNNNGAA, wherein N represents any nucleotide, and wherein a transcription factor in said tumor cell binds to said oligonucleotide, the transcription factor activity being correlated to proliferation of said tumor cell.

20 (currently amended). [A therapeutic] An agent comprising an effective amount of [an] a double-stranded oligonucleotide [for modulating the function of transcription factors] of claim 8 and a pharmaceutically effective carrier.

21 (new). The agent according to claim 20, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises the sequence AGATTTCTAGGAATTCAAATC (SEQ ID NO:1).

22 (new). The agent according to claim 20, wherein said transcription factor is STAT5.

23 (new). The agent according to claim 20, wherein said transcription factor is activated.

24 (new). The agent according to claim 23, wherein said transcription factor is constitutively activated.

25 (new). The agent according to claim 20, wherein said cell is a malignant cell.

26 (new). The agent according to claim 20, wherein said cell is a leukemia cell.

27 (new). The agent according to claim 20, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises multiple copies of said nucleotide sequence TTCNNNGAA.

28 (new). The agent according to claim 20, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises two copies of said nucleotide sequence TTCNNNGAA.

29 (new). The agent according to claim 20, wherein said cell is a human cell.

30 (new). The method according to claim 1, wherein said transcription factor is STAT5.

31 (new). The method according to claim 1, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises the sequence AGATTTCTAGGAATTCAAATC (SEQ ID NO:1).

32 (new). The method according to claim 1, wherein said transcription factor is activated.

33 (new). The method according to claim 32, wherein said transcription factor is constitutively activated.

34 (new). The method according to claim 1, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises multiple copies of said nucleotide sequence TTCNNNGAA.

35 (new). The method according to claim 1, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises two copies of said nucleotide sequence TTCNNNGAA.

36 (new). The composition according to claim 8, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises the sequence AGATTTCTAGGAATTCAAATC (SEQ ID NO:1).

37 (new). The composition according to claim 8, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises multiple copies of said nucleotide sequence TTCNNNGAA.

38 (new). The composition according to claim 8, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises two copies of said nucleotide sequence TTCNNNGAA.

39 (new). The composition according to claim 8, wherein said cell is a human cell.

40 (new). The method according to claim 16, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises the sequence AGATTTCTAGGAATTCAAATC (SEQ ID NO:1).

41 (new). The method according to claim 16, wherein said transcription factor is STAT5.

42 (new). The method according to claim 16, wherein said transcription factor is activated.

43 (new). The method according to claim 42, wherein said transcription factor is constitutively activated.

44 (new). The method according to claim 16, wherein said cell is a malignant cell.

45 (new). The method according to claim 16, wherein said cell is a leukemia cell.

46 (new). The method according to claim 16, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises multiple copies of said nucleotide sequence TTCNNNGAA.

47 (new). The method according to claim 16, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises two copies of said nucleotide sequence TTCNNNGAA.

48 (new). The method according to claim 16, wherein said cell is a human cell.

49 (new). The method according to claim 19, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises the sequence AGATTTCTAGGAATTCAAATC (SEQ ID NO:1).

50 (new). The method according to claim 19, wherein said transcription factor is STAT5.

51 (new). The method according to claim 19, wherein said transcription factor is activated.

52 (new). The method according to claim 51, wherein said transcription factor is constitutively activated.

53 (new). The method according to claim 19, wherein said cell is a malignant cell.

54 (new). The method according to claim 19, wherein said cell is a leukemia cell.

55 (new). The method according to claim 19, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises multiple copies of said nucleotide sequence TTCNNNGAA.

56 (new). The method according to claim 19, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises two copies of said nucleotide sequence TTCNNNGAA.

57 (new). The method according to claim 19, wherein said cell is a human cell.